

Proposed Revision of Water District 33 Inclusion of Ground Water Rights



IDWR Public Hearing
December 12, 2018
Howe, ID
Tim Luke, IDWR

Welcome

- Water Users/Right Holders
- IDWR Staff
- Elected Officials?

Hearing Purpose & Agenda

- Background Presentation/Information
 - Describe proposed action
 - Reasons for proposed action
 - Review of water districts & operations
 - Review of timelines/expectations
- Questions/Answers?
- Taking of Testimony

Hearing Notice Proposal

Revise WD33, Little Lost River drainage, to include all ground water rights except:

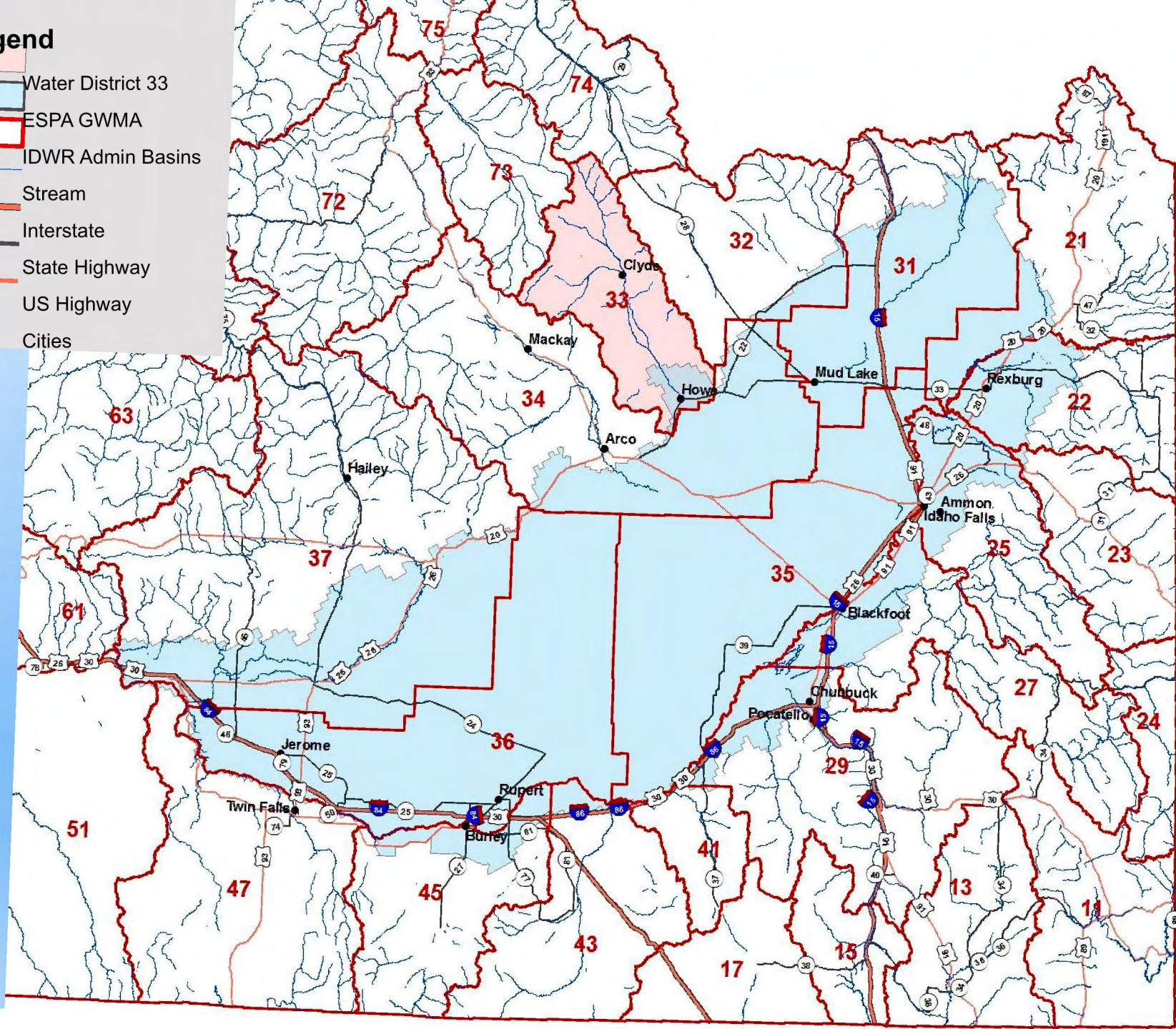
- Ground water domestic and stockwater rights as defined by Idaho Code § 42-111

Area of Notice

- Notice sent to both ground water and surface water right holders in Little Lost River drainage or WD33 area
 - Total of 70 Notices Sent
 - Excluding domestic and stock water rights as defined by Idaho Code § 42-111
 - (surface and ground water sources)

Legend

- Water District 33
- ESPA GWMA
- IDWR Admin Basins
- Stream
- Interstate
- State Highway
- US Highway
- Cities

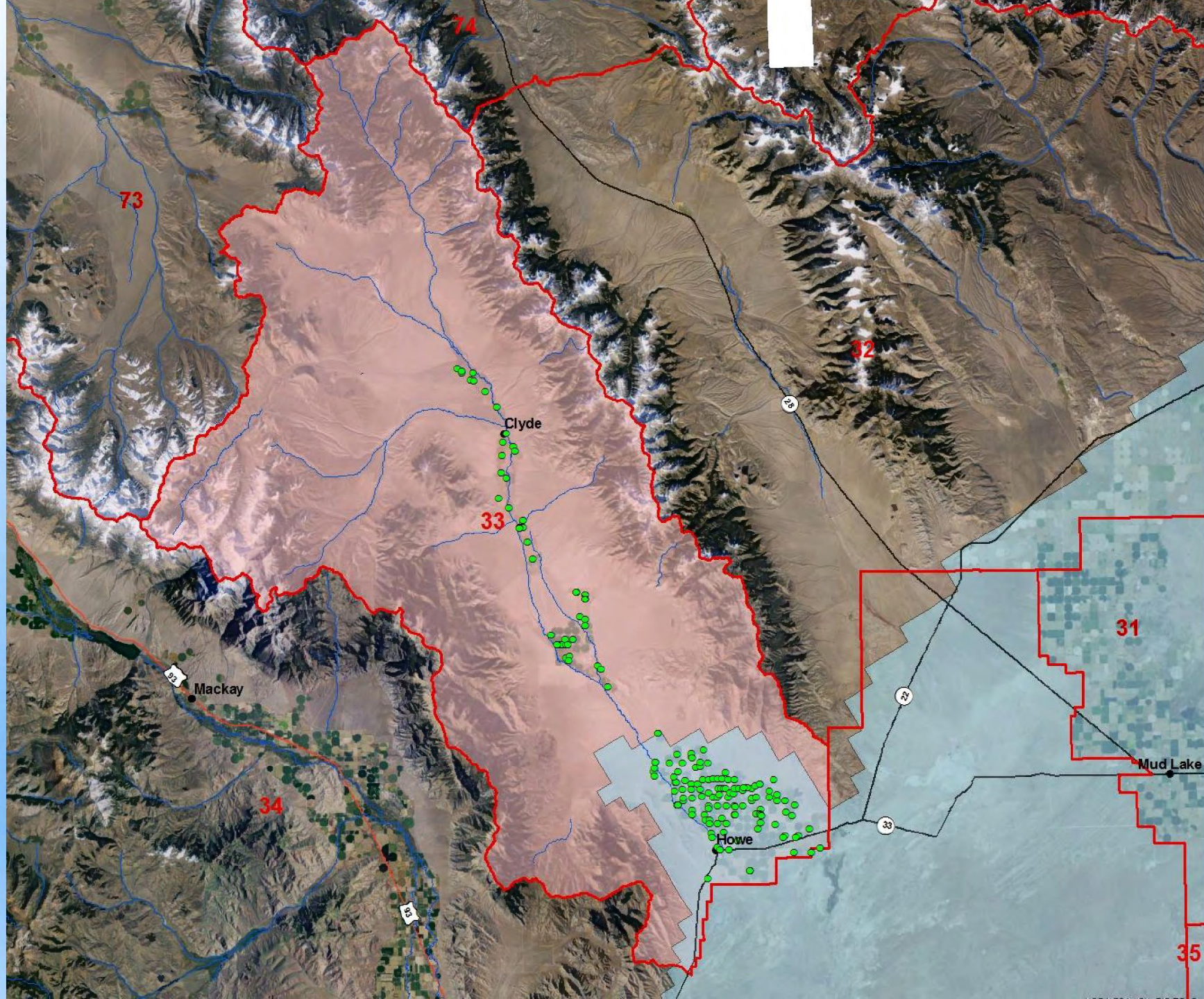


Number of Water Rights and Diversions in Area

Ground Water Rights and Diversions in WD 33*

- About 233 ground water rights total and 164 wells
 - \approx 215 gw rts w/irrig use > 5 acres; \approx 157 wells
 - \approx 16 gw rts w/irrig use ≤ 5 acres; \approx 10 wells
 - \approx 2 non-irrigation gw rights total
 - 1 gw right > 0.24 cfs; \approx 1 well
 - Total ground water rights cfs (gross) \approx 505 cfs
 - 120 of 164 wells within ESPA GWMA

* As per water rights records



Number of Water Rights and Diversions in Area

Surface Water Rights and Diversions in WD 33

- About 157 surface water rights total and 68 diversions
 - \approx 144 sw rights for irrigation use
 - \approx 13 sw rights for non-irrigation use (mostly hydro power)
- Total ground water rights cfs (gross) \approx 618 cfs

Why is IDWR Proposing Revision of WD33?

- SRBA is complete
 - SRBA Court issued Final Decree – August 24, 2014
- Administration required for ground water rights
- WD33 overlaps ESPA GW Model Boundary & ESPA Ground Water Management Area
 - Hydraulically connected and tributary to ESPA
 - ESPA GWMA designated November 2, 2016

Why Add GW Rights to WD33?

- Including ground water rights is more efficient
 - Minimize duplication of efforts
(watermaster, billings, insurance, equipment, reports)
 - Some ground water rights in Little Lost Basin are already administered by WD33 watermaster
 - Many water users have both gw and sw rights in same area

Why Water District(s) are needed

- Regulation
 - proper delivery of water, includes curtailing junior priority rights as necessary
 - measurement and reporting of water use
 - address unauthorized uses
 - assure diversions within water right limits
- Administer/Manage water rights
 - assist IDWR with current/accurate records (ownership, diversion descriptions, transfers review)

Why Water District(s) are needed

- ESPA GWMA – Potential Regulation
 - Management Plan may be developed/approved
 - Director may limit water use until there is sufficient supply of ground water
 - Director may require measurement & reporting
 - Necessary if limiting water use
 - May be component of GWMA Management Plan
 - Measurement Order already issued within ESPA
 - Issued July, 2016
 - Ground water rights within water districts 31, 34, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140

Water Districts

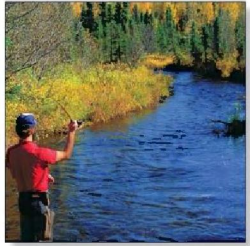
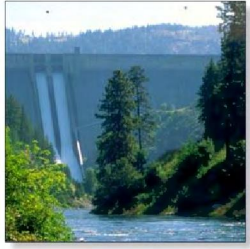
Chapter 6, Title 42, Idaho Code

Created by order of Director of IDWR for purposes of water right administration, specifically, distribution of water from public or natural water sources in accordance with water right priority dates.

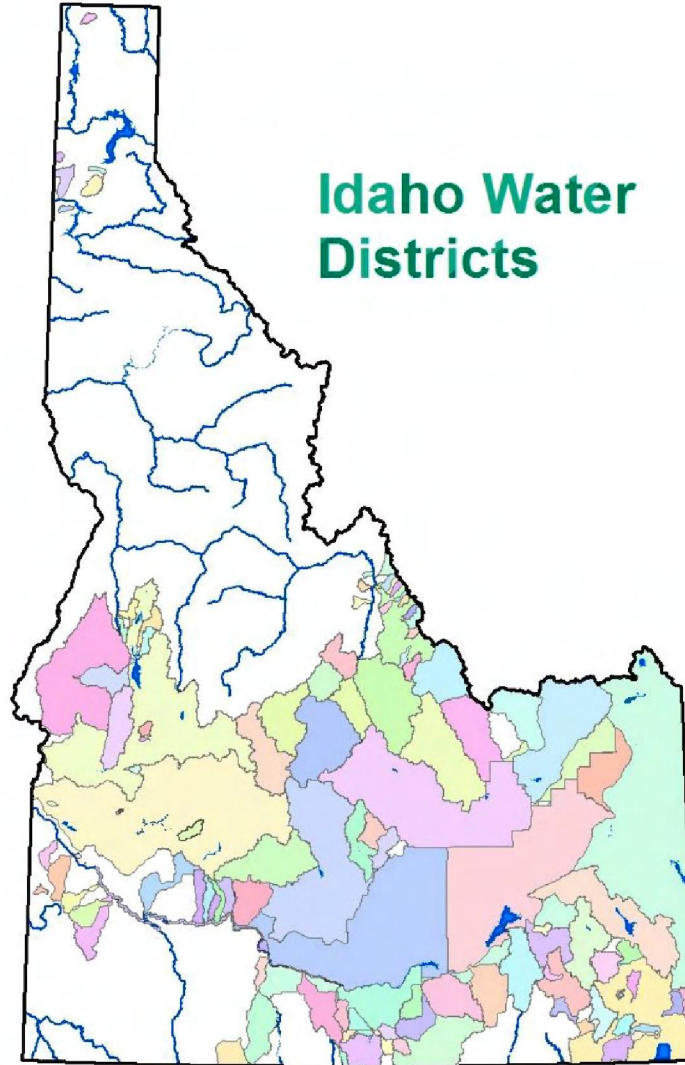
Water Districts

- Creation/Modification of Water Districts
 - “The director shall divide the state into water districts ... such that each public stream and tributaries, or independent source of water supply, shall constitute a water district.”
 - “The director may create, revise the boundaries of, or abolish a water district or combine two or more water districts by entry of an order . . . to properly administer uses of the water resource.”

Idaho Code § 42-604



Idaho Water Districts



Water Districts

Features

- Watermasters elected annually to provide water distribution services
 - elected by users, appointed by IDWR Director
 - compensated by users via assessments
 - receive guidance/direction from Director
- Advisory Committee elected annually
 - comprised of water users in district
 - serve in advisory capacity to watermaster and director, draft and implement resolutions, may mediate problems within district

Water Districts

- General Duties of Watermaster:
 - 1) deliver water in accordance with water right priority dates
 - authority to control/regulate diversion works
 - 2) measure and report diversions under water rights
 - 3) provide annual reports of expenses & water delivered (watermaster report, daily log books or distribution report, proposed budget)
 - 4) report and control unauthorized diversions
 - local resource/expert; review transfers

Water Districts

Meetings, Elections, Budgets

- Annual meeting held to elect watermaster, adopt a budget and resolutions, and select an advisory committee.
- Voting is by majority vote of users present, or if requested, by alternative method that involves votes equal to dollar amount assessed.

Idaho Code § 42-605

Water Districts

Meetings, Elections, Budgets

- Amount of water use is basis for assessments.
(IC § 42-612)
- Alternative methods and flexibility provided for voting and assessment of non-consumptive uses.
(IC § 42-605A)
- Budget collected either by county or by district.
(IC § 42-612 and 42-618)
- Participation is mandatory

District Creation/Modification

Who's included:

- All water rights are included, but for Administrative & Assessment purposes, IDWR may exclude:
 - domestic/stock water uses meeting definition of Sec. 42-111, Idaho Code
 - in-stream livestock
 - other small rights/uses (≤ 0.24 cfs)
 - minimum in-stream flow rights are exempt by law

Note: hydropower rights included but may be assessed differently

Measurement Requirements

Likely Scenario – Ground Water

- Order to require installation of measuring devices
 - After ground water rights are included in a water district
 - Issue order this year (same or similar requirements as ESPA Order)
 - April, 2020 Deadline
- Standard meters required; variances limited but may be considered

Measurement Requirements:

- For Ground Water Measurement, typically exclude:
 - domestic/stock water uses, in-stream livestock & other small rights/uses ≤ 0.24 cfs diversion rate
 - may exclude small irrigation uses, typically ≤ 5 acres
- All other rights/diversions subject to measurement

Measurement Requirements

- Ground water diversions:
 - Mag Meters: \approx \$2,700 - \$3,200 for 10" diam. Installed*
 - Meters should be read several times per year

* Assumes no pipe modifications



Water Measurement

[Overview](#) [Forms](#) [Resources](#) [Research & Maps](#) [Contacts](#)



OVERVIEW

Originally created to support the measurement of ground water on the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA), the Water Measurement program now functions statewide to establish, maintain, and implement state water measurement and reporting standards. IDWR works directly with [water districts](#) and [water measurement districts](#) to implement measurement requirements and programs within the state. Examples of these efforts include:


- closed conduit and open channel measurement methods
- diversion and control works for surface and ground water diversions
- automation, data logging, and telemetry of water diversion and measurement systems
- development and maintenance of reporting systems for water diversion measurements

Guidelines

Use the following guidelines and procedures to collect water measurement data and report that information to IDWR. Using these procedures provides a uniform measuring and reporting method within the State of Idaho, including within water districts. The information below also assists in measuring and reporting diversions pursuant to various water measurement orders issued by IDWR.

-  [Minimum Acceptable Standards for Open Channel and Closed Conduit Measuring Devices](#)
-  [List of Approved Closed Conduit Flow Meters](#)
-  [IDWR Water Measurement and Reporting Guidelines](#)

ESPA Measurement Order

 [Final Order on Reconsideration Requiring Measuring Devices for Ground Water in Water Districts 31, 34, 100, 110, 120, 130, and 140 - July 22, 2016](#)

 [Administrative Actions](#)

Helpful Links

[Water Districts](#)

[Water Measurement Districts](#)

[Water Rights Accounting](#)

[Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer Model](#)

[42-701 - General statutory requirement for water measurement and reporting in Idaho](#)

Good installation







WMIS

Water Management Information System

Quick Search:

Search Method:	Reporting District	▼
Reporting District:	Water District 37B	▼
WMIS Number:	1000947	▼
Legal Description:	01S 13E 16 NW NW SE	▼
Metal Tag Number:	A0017857	▼

[For a](#)

You are logged in as tluke

[Point Of Diversion](#) [PCC](#) ▶ [Flow Meter](#) ▶ [Time Clock](#) [Alternate](#) [Contacts](#) [Data Summary](#) [Other](#) ▶ [Logout](#)

[Flow Meter Water Usage](#)

[Flow Meter Calibrations](#)

Flow Meter Water Usage

You are viewing 1000947; A0017857

[Click here to insert a new record.](#)

Edit	Delete	Report Year	Totalizer Start	Acre Feet Volume	Max Flow Rate (CFS)	Comments
		2016	113494.10	312.85		
		Validated	Totalizer End	Adjusted Acre Feet	Adjusted Max Flow Rate	
		Validated by Water Master	215437.60	312.85		
		Calibration Data	Acre Feet Qualifier	Preferred Method *		
		Date:	11/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	Monthly Recordings	FM	
		Factor	1.00			
		Vol. Multiplier:	1000.0000			
		Vol. Unit	GAL			

Edit	Delete	Report Year	Totalizer Start	Acre Feet Volume	Max Flow Rate (CFS)	Comments
		2015	0.00	348.30		
		Validated	Totalizer End	Adjusted Acre Feet	Adjusted Max Flow Rate	
			113494.10	348.30		
		Calibration Data	Acre Feet Qualifier	Preferred Method *		
		Date:	11/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	Full Year Estimate		
		Factor	1.00			
		Vol. Multiplier:	1000.0000			
		Vol. Unit	GAL			

District Operation and Budget Considerations:

- Watermaster duties 2019:
 - Work with committee, IDWR and users on measuring device order and implementation
 - Inventory /inspect some diversions
 - Respond/address any complaints
 - Ownership changes, review transfers

District Operation and Budgeting Considerations:

- GW rights in Expanded WD 33:
 - Expand WD budget for gw rights – 2019
 - base on estimated water use
 - apply a minimum assessment?
 - Delay budget expansion and assessment of wells until next year?

WD Revision Timeline

Next Steps

- Ten day comment period after hearing (Dec. 24)
- Issue order revising WD by February
- WD advisory committee meeting
 - Consider 2019 assessments for ground water rights
 - Consider adding ground water right reps to committee
- Annual meeting is first Monday of March (3/4/2019)

WD Revision Timeline

Next Steps

- Work with WD33 Advisory Committee and other area ground water users on measurement order
- Issue measurement order by March - April 2019
- Conduct some inventory of wells in 2019
 - IDWR will assist with inventory

Questions and Discussion?

